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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A compressively coded data reproduction method for starting transmission of reproduced data from a video frame and an audio frame corresponding to a reproduction start time specified from the outside, on a data stream in which the following data are multiplexed: compressively coded video data comprising I pictures obtained by subjecting a series of video frames to intra-frame compressive coding, P pictures each obtained by forward-direction predictive compressive coding utilizing the correlation with a video frame in the past, and B pictures each obtained by bi-directional predictive compressive coding utilizing the correlation with two video frames in the past or in the future, or two video frames one in the past and one in the future; compressively coded audio data obtained by ~~subjected~~subjecting a series of audio frames to compressive coding; and additional data relating to the compressively coded video data and the compressively coded audio data, said method comprising ~~the steps of:~~

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separating the compressively coded video data, the compressively coded audio data, and ~~the additional data from the data stream and outputting these data and, at this time, the~~ separated data, and simultaneously performing head detection on the video frames and the audio frames;

judging whether a detected head frame is a video frame or an audio frame corresponding to the reproduction start time, on the basis of reproduction time information that is one of the additional data assigned to the detected frame;

making a decoding request for decoding the detected video frame from the compressively coded video data when the detected video frame is judged ~~as~~ to be a video frame corresponding to the reproduction start time, and making a decoding request for decoding the detected audio frame from the compressively coded audio data when the detected audio frame is judged ~~as~~ to be an audio frame corresponding to the reproduction start time;

judging whether both of the video frame and the audio frame have been decoded or not; ~~and~~

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requesting synchronous output of the decoded video data and audio data when it is judged that both of the video frame and the audio frame have been ~~deeded~~decoded;

wherein performing head detection on the video frames and the audio frames comprises:

judging whether an effective reproduction time information is assigned to the detected head frame or not; and

calculating reproduction time information of the video frame on the basis of display output order information that is one of the additional data of the video frame, and reproduction time information and display output order information of a video frame which has been decoded prior to the video frame, in the case where no effective reproduction time information is assigned to the detected frame, when the detected frame is a video frame, and alternatively calculating reproduction time information of the audio frame on the basis of reproduction time information of an audio frame which has been detected prior to the audio frame when the detected frame is an audio frame.

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2. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction method of Claim 1-1, further comprising ~~a step of~~ judging whether a predetermined period of time has passed or not, before ~~the step of~~ judging whether both of the video frame and the audio frame have been decoded or not;

wherein, when the predetermined period of time has passed, an output request is made for either the video frame or the audio frame, whichever has been decoded.

3. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction method of Claim 1-1, further comprising ~~the steps of~~:

judging whether a predetermined period of time has passed or not, before ~~the step of~~ judging whether both of the video frame and the audio frame have been decoded or not; and

notifying ~~the~~ an outside recipient that an abnormal condition occurs, when the predetermined period of time has passed and then both of the video frame and the audio frame have not yet been decoded.

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4. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction method of Claim 1, wherein the data stream is a program stream defined by the MPEG standard, and the reproduction time information is a PTS (Presentation Time Stamp) defined by the MPEG standard.

5. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction method for starting transmission of reproduced data from a picture and an audio frame corresponding to a reproduction start time specified from the outside, on a data stream in which coded video data arranged in non-chronological order, coded audio data relating to the coded video data, and additional data attendant on these data are multiplexed, said method comprising:

separating the coded video data, the coded audio data, and the additional data from the data stream and outputting the separated data and, at this time, performing head detection on reproduced pictures and reproduced audio data;

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judging whether the detected head picture per screen or head audio data is a picture per screen or audio data corresponding to the reproduction start time specified from the outside, on the basis of reproduction time information that is one of the additional data assigned to the detected picture or audio data;

making a decoding request for decoding the picture per screen and the audio data corresponding to the reproduction start time;

judging whether both of the picture per screen and the audio data have been decoded or not; and

making a request for synchronous output of the decoded picture per screen and the decoded audio data, when both of the picture and the audio data have already been decoded, of Claim 1, wherein the step of performing head detection on the video frames reproduced pictures and the reproduced audio frames includes the steps of:
data comprises:

judging whether an effective reproduction time information is assigned to the detected head frame picture or audio data or not; and

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~~in the case where no effective reproduction time~~
~~information is assigned to the detected frame, when the detected~~
~~frame is a video frame, calculating reproduction time~~
information of the video frame picture per screen on the basis
of display output order information that is one of the
additional data of the video frame, picture per screen, and
reproduction time information and display output order
information of a video frame picture per screen which has been
decoded prior to the video frame; picture per screen, in the
case where no effective reproduction time information is
assigned to the detected picture or audio data when the detected
picture or audio data is a picture per screen; and
alternatively, on the other hand, when the detected frame is an
audio frame, calculating reproduction time information of the
audio frame data on the basis of reproduction time information
of an audio frame data which has been detected prior to the
audio frame data when the detected picture or audio data is an
audio data.

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6. (Original) The compressively coded data reproduction method of Claim 5, wherein the display output order information is a temporal reference defined by the MPEG standard.

7. (Currently Amended) A compressively coded data reproduction apparatus for starting transmission of reproduced data from a video frame and an audio frame corresponding to a reproduction start time specified from ~~the outside,~~ outside the apparatus, on a data stream in which the following data are multiplexed: compressively coded video data comprising I pictures obtained by subjecting a series of video frames to intra-frame compressive coding, P pictures each obtained by forward-direction predictive compressive coding utilizing the correlation with a video frame in the past, and B pictures each obtained by bi-directional predictive compressive coding utilizing the correlation with two video frames in the past or in the future or two video frames, one in the past and one in the future; compressively coded audio data obtained by ~~subjected~~ subjecting a series of audio frames to compressive coding; and additional data relating to the compressively coded video data

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and the compressively coded audio data, said apparatus comprising:

a system decoder for separating ~~the~~ compressively coded video data comprising video frames, ~~the~~ compressively coded audio data comprising audio frames, and ~~the~~ additional data from ~~the~~ a data stream and outputting ~~these~~ said separated data and, ~~at this time,~~ simultaneously performing head detection on the such video frames and ~~the~~ such audio frames;

a video decoder for decoding ~~the~~ video frames from ~~the~~ such compressively coded video data to output video data;

an audio decoder for decoding ~~the~~ audio frames from ~~the~~ compressively coded audio data to output audio data; and

a synchronous controller for (1) judging whether a head frame detected by the system decoder is a video frame or an audio frame corresponding to ~~the~~ a reproduction start time, on the basis of reproduction time information that is one of the additional data assigned to the detected ~~frame;~~ frame, (2) outputting a decoding request to the video decoder when ~~the~~ a detected frame is judged as a video frame corresponding to the reproduction start ~~time;~~ time, (3) outputting a decoding request

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to the audio decoder when ~~the~~ a detected frame is judged as an audio frame corresponding to ~~the~~ such reproduction start ~~time;~~ and time, and (4) outputting an output request to the video decoder and to the audio decoder at ~~the~~ a point ~~of~~ in time when both of ~~the~~ a video frame and ~~the~~ an audio frame have been ~~deecoded~~ decoded,

wherein, when an effective reproduction time information is not assigned to the detected head picture per screen or head audio data detected by the system decoder, when detected picture or audio data is a picture per screen, the synchronous controller is for calculating reproduction time information of the picture per screen on the basis of display output order information that is one of additional data of the picture per screen, and reproduction time information and display output order information of a picture per screen which has been decoded prior to the picture per screen; and

when the detected head picture per screen or head audio data is audio data, the synchronous controller is for calculating reproduction time information of audio data on the

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basis of reproduction time information of audio data which has been detected prior to such audio data.

8. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus of Claim 7-7, wherein, ~~when only either of the video frame and the audio frame has been decoded after the expiration of a predetermined period of time,~~ the synchronous controller ~~outputs~~ is for outputting an output request to either of the video decoder and the audio decoder, depending on whichever has completed decoding at this a specified point of time, when only either of a video frame and an audio frame has been decoded after expiration of a predetermined period of time.

9. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus of Claim 7-7, wherein, ~~when both of the video frame and the audio frame have not yet been decoded after the expiration of a predetermined period of time,~~ the synchronous controller ~~notifies the~~ is for notifying an outside recipient that an abnormal condition ~~occurs~~ has occurred when

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both a video frame and an audio frame have not yet been decoded after expiration of a predetermined prior of time.

10. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus of Claim 7, wherein ~~the~~ such data stream is a program stream defined by the MPEG standard, and ~~the~~ such reproduction time information is a PTS (Presentation Time Stamp) defined by the MPEG standard.

11. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus ~~of Claim 7~~ for starting transmission of reproduced data from a picture and an audio frame corresponding to a reproduction start time specified from outside the apparatus, on a data stream in which coded video data arranged in non-chronological order, coded audio data relating to such coded video data, and additional data attendant on such data are multiplexed, said apparatus comprising:

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a system decoder for separating coded video data, coded audio data, and additional data from the data stream and outputting such separated data and, simultaneously performing head detection on reproduced pictures and reproduced audio data;

a video decoder for decoding pictures per screen from the coded video data;

an audio decoder for decoding audio data from coded audio data; and

a synchronous controller for judging whether the detected head picture per screen or head audio data is a picture per screen or audio data corresponding to the reproduction start time specified from outside the apparatus, on the basis of reproduction time information that is one of additional data assigned to the picture per screen or the audio data detected by the system decoder; outputting a decoding request for decoding the picture per screen and the audio data corresponding to the reproduction start time, to the video decoder and the audio decoder; and outputting an output request to the video decoder and the audio decoder at a point of time when both of the picture per screen and the audio data have been decoded,

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 wherein, ~~in the case where~~ when an effective reproduction time information is not assigned to the ~~head frame~~ the detected head picture per screen or head audio data detected by the system decoder, when the ~~detected head frame picture or audio data~~ is a video frame, picture per screen, the synchronous controller ~~calculates~~ is for calculating reproduction time information of the ~~video frame picture per screen~~ on the basis of display output order information that is one of the additional data of the video frame, picture per screen, and reproduction time information and display output order information of a video frame picture per screen which has been decoded prior to the ~~video frame, picture per screen;~~ and

~~in the above-mentioned case,~~ when the detected head frame picture per screen or head audio data is an ~~audio frame, data,~~ the synchronous controller ~~calculates~~ is for calculating reproduction time information of the ~~such audio frame, data,~~ on the basis of reproduction time information of an audio frame data which has been detected prior to the ~~such audio frame, data.~~

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12. (Currently Amended) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus of Claim 11, wherein ~~the~~ such display output order information is a temporal reference defined by the MPEG standard.

13.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (New) The compressively coded data reproduction method of Claim 1, wherein the display output order information is a temporal reference defined by the MPEG standard.

16. (New) The compressively coded data reproduction apparatus of Claim 7, wherein the display output order information is a temporal reference defined by the MPEG standard.